

2001 The Oaks Parkway, Belmont, NC 28012

March 21, 2013

Mr. Swain E. Whitfield, Commissioner South Carolina Public Service Commission 101 Executive Center Drive Columbia, SC 29210

Dear Commissioner Whitfield;

The rate increases proposed by Duke Energy will negatively affect the competitiveness of South Carolina as an attractive location for manufacturing and other industrial companies. South Carolina has effectively held Duke Energy in line and currently is second only to the State of Georgia in industrial power rates among states in the southeast competing for these types of businesses.

No other business in the state can be competitive in their marketplace raising its prices year over year at this rate. Why should Duke Energy be any different? Perhaps there is less focus on being cost efficient given the limited competitive environment.

We encourage South Carolina to not allow the rate increases that Duke is requesting and require them to operate within the current rate structure and allow the state to continue to attract businesses that see South Carolina as a desirable and competitive state to do business in. Duke Energy will benefit as a result of a growing customer base over which to spread their costs. The failure to do so will make manufacturing companies in South Carolina, such as ours, seek lower cost regions for expansion.

Sincerely,

Grag M. Botner President and CEO



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March 21, 2013

Mr. John E. Howard, Commissioner South Carolina Public Service Commission 101 Executive Center Drive Columbia, SC 29210

Dear Commissioner Howard;

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Sincerely,

Gree M. Botner President and CEO



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Ms. Nikiya Hall, Commissioner South Carolina Public Service Commission 101 Executive Center Drive Columbia, SC 29210

Dear Commissioner Hall;

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Sincerely,

Greg M. Botner
President and CEO



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Mr. David A. Wright, Chairman South Carolina Public Service Commission 101 Executive Center Drive Columbia, SC 29210

Dear Chairman Wright;

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